Leicester Fields 31st Decr 1776

Dear Sir;

I have lately received your favors of 16th & 23d Novr & am sorry to find you were prevented sailing for N York at a more seasonable time of the year; but hope through the favor of Providence you & your family have been safely conducted thither before this, & that it wont be long before I am relieved of any anxiety for you.

You mention its being rare to receive letters from your friends in this place; I am sure if all I have wrote you, had got to hand, you would have no reason to complain of my neglect, I dont remember missing but one opportunity, & that I was cautious of trusting a letter by; I find that another Ship (the Julius Cæsar Capt. Mill) that I wrote by & which sailed near the same time has some how or other got into Boston instead of Halifax, and I presume my letter by her has got into other hands, than I designed it should, however if it has, it gives me pleasure to think that Daughter Bromfield will hereby know, that I was then alive, & if there should be any way of advising her from your place that I and my Children here are now in good health, & that her Brothers were so, the last I heard from them, which was 19th Novr; (I beg you would do it) I cant write her by this opportunity, as I fear that my packet will be too bulky for the way I propose to forward it, by please just to mention to her, that I have wrote her by Mr David Green, who went out to the West Indies, & by a Gentleman Via Phila; & if Son Martin should be at Phila I beg the favor of you to communicate the same to him.

Now

(Now you have got to the fountain head of intelligence, I hope you will favor me with constant & circumstantial advices of American affairs, & if you can circumscribe what you favor me with ~~within~~ within the limits of a sheet, especially if you write by the packet, it will save some charge;

I shall not be backward in continuing to inform you of anything that may occur here worth your notice, at present I know nothing of public concern, saving that opposition in Parliament seems to be dead, & as I am informed there has been lately a great change in people abroad, with regard to the American cause, its said the declaration of Independence has convinced many & silenced others.

The Gentlemen of the M: Council have lately renewed their application to Government, & have had encouraging promises, nothing is yet done; your friends will give all the attention in their power to your interest, & will be mindful of what you say to promote it.

By our late advices from N. York (the acc.d of taking Fort Washington rec.d came yesterday) I hope there is some probability of a communication being opened between that place & Canada, & have therefore attempted to send that way some advices to my Sons of their affairs here, which are of importance to them to know as soon as may be. I have therefore to beg you to forward my letter to them, by the first opportunity. I send my packet under Direction to Gov.r Robinson, his friendship to you is my apology. I hope you will say what is further necessary to secure my freedom.

Son & Daughter Copley's affectionate regards & mine attend you & yours. Adieu

Yours faithfully

Richard Clarke

P.S. I have since the above ~~wrote~~ wrote daughter Bromfield, & as it contains only domestic affairs I hope it may be permitted to reach her.

RW 404(1)

London 31 Decemr 1776

Richd Clarke Esq to
his brother Isaac Winslow

To
Mr Isaac Winslow Esq
New York